

**AMENDMENT TO RULES COMMITTEE PRINT 119-8**  
**OFFERED BY MR. PANETTA OF CALIFORNIA**

1       At the end of subtitle C of title VI add the following  
2 new section:

3 **SEC. 6\_\_\_. PILOT PROGRAM TO PROVIDE COUPONS TO**  
4                   **JUNIOR ENLISTED MEMBERS TO PURCHASE**  
5                   **FOOD AT COMMISSARIES.**

6       (a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of Defense may  
7 conduct a pilot program to assess the efficacy of providing  
8 junior enlisted members of the Armed Forces a monthly  
9 coupon for use in procuring food at commissaries.

10       (b) SELECTION OF INSTALLATIONS.—

11           (1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary may conduct  
12 the pilot program authorized by subsection (a) at 2  
13 military installations.

14           (2) CONSIDERATIONS.—In selecting installa-  
15 tions for the pilot program authorized by subsection  
16 (a), the Secretary shall consider installations with—

17           (A) large numbers of enlisted members  
18 who live in unaccompanied housing;

19           (B) the largest ratios of enlisted members  
20 to commissioned officers;

1 (C) unaccompanied housing that provides  
2 access to functioning kitchens that residents  
3 may use to prepare meals;

4 (D) commissaries that are experimenting  
5 with or expanding their selection of nutritious  
6 and minimally processed ready-made and easy-  
7 to-make food options;

8 (E) low rates of attendance at dining fa-  
9 cilities;

10 (F) low customer satisfaction ratings for  
11 dining facilities, including installations with  
12 complaints about dining facilities submitted  
13 through the Interactive Customer Evaluation  
14 system of the Department of Defense; and

15 (G) commissaries located within easily ac-  
16 cessible distances from unaccompanied housing.

17 (c) COUPONS.—

18 (1) AMOUNT.—The Secretary may determine  
19 the amount of the coupons to be provided under the  
20 pilot program authorized by subsection (a).

21 (2) USE.—

22 (A) IN GENERAL.—A coupon provided  
23 under the pilot program authorized by sub-  
24 section (a) may be used only to purchase food  
25 at commissaries.

1 (B) EXCLUSIONS.—A coupon provided  
2 under the pilot program authorized by sub-  
3 section (a) may not be used—

4 (i) to purchase alcoholic beverages or  
5 tobacco; or

6 (ii) to pay any deposit fee in excess of  
7 the amount of the State fee reimbursement  
8 (if any) required to purchase any food or  
9 food product contained in a returnable bot-  
10 tle or can, without regard to whether the  
11 fee is included in the shelf price posted for  
12 the food or food product.

13 (3) SUPPLEMENT TO OTHER FOOD ASSIST-  
14 ANCE.—A coupon provided to a member under the  
15 pilot program authorized by paragraph (1) shall sup-  
16 plement and not supplant—

17 (A) the basic allowance for subsistence  
18 under section 402 of title 37, United States  
19 Code; and

20 (B) any program to provide meals or ra-  
21 tions in kind for which the member is eligible.

22 (d) DURATION OF PILOT PROGRAM.—The pilot pro-  
23 gram authorized by subsection (a) shall terminate not  
24 later than one year after the pilot program commences.

25 (e) REPORT REQUIRED.—

1           (1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 90 days after  
2           the termination of the pilot program authorized by  
3           subsection (a), the Secretary of Defense shall submit  
4           to the congressional defense committees a report de-  
5           tailing the results of the pilot program.

6           (2) ELEMENTS.—The report required by para-  
7           graph (1) shall include an assessment of the fol-  
8           lowing:

9                   (A) The use of coupons by members who  
10           received coupons under the pilot program.

11                   (B) The satisfaction of and feedback from  
12           such members relating to the coupons.

13                   (C) The impact of providing the coupons  
14           on—

15                           (i) the rates at which such members  
16           used commissaries; and

17                           (ii) the rates at which such members  
18           used dining facilities on their installations.

19                   (D) Historical rates of use of dining facili-  
20           ties on installations and historical customer sat-  
21           isfaction metrics for such facilities, including  
22           the number of complaints with respect to such  
23           facilities submitted through the Interactive Cus-  
24           tomer Evaluation system of the Department of  
25           Defense.

1 (E) The efficacy of the pilot program in—

2 (i) reducing food insecurity rates

3 among junior enlisted members;

4 (ii) increasing the availability of nutri-

5 tious food options for such members at

6 commissaries; and

7 (iii) increasing the availability of nu-

8 tritious food options for such members

9 generally, including such members living in

10 unaccompanied housing.

11 (f) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

12 (1) The term “coupon” means a voucher or

13 monetary benefit for a member of the Armed Forces

14 that may be used only at a commissary for the pur-

15 chase of food.

16 (2) The term “food” means any food or food

17 product intended for home consumption, including a

18 ready-made food item.

